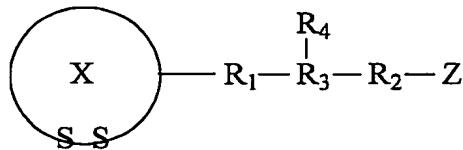


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel the claims indicated as cancelled:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A scavenger compound of the general formula I

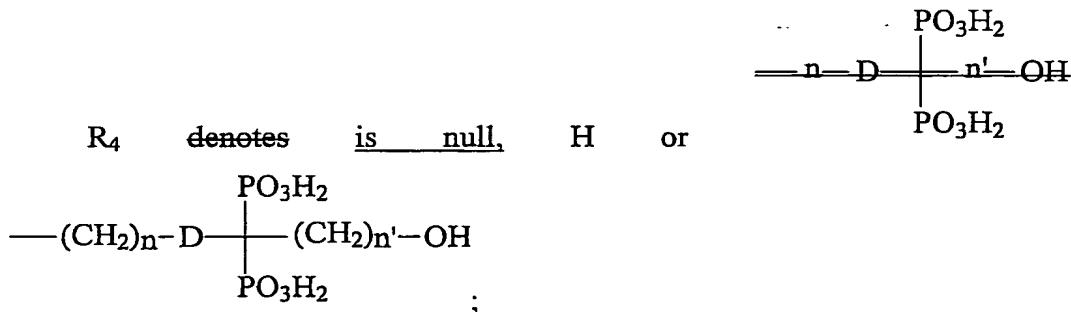


in which wherein

X denotes is a 4 - 10 membered membered ring;

R₁ and R₂ are independently alkyl or of each other an alkylene or alkenylene wherein said R₁, R₂ or both may be unsubstituted or substituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolidinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrazolidinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, indolyl, oxyindolyl, isoindolyl, indazolyl, indolinyl, 7-azaindolyl, isoindazolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, naphthridinyl, cinnolinyl, quinazolinyl, pyridopyridyl, benzoxazinyl, quinoxadinyl, and carbolinyl;

R₃ denotes is H, carboxy, amido, alkanol, amino, carboxyalcohol, alkanediol, amine alcohol, amine, diol, thio or amine carbonyl;



n and n' are, independently, an integer from 0 to 8;

D denotes is CH₂ or NH; and

Z denotes is a 4 - 10 membered membered di sulfide ring or R₄ and its salts.

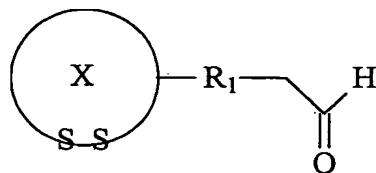
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Claim 2 (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein X denotes is a 4, 5 or 6 membered ring and Z denotes is a 4, 5 or 6 ~~membered~~ membered di sulfide ring or R₄.

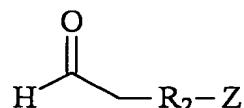
Claim 3 (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ and R₂ are ~~alkyls or alkylenes~~ a C₁₋₁₀ alkylene or alkenylene.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Original) A method for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 comprising the step of performing reduction or oxidation of a compound of the general formula II



and a compound of the general formula III



in the presence of a reducing or oxidizing agent and a solvent.

Claim 7 (Original) A method of treating a patient afflicted with conditions associated with oxidative stress or free radical injury comprising the step of administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1.

Claim 8 (Original) A method according to claim 7 wherein with conditions associated with oxidative stress or free radical injury are selected from aging-mediated changes, pulmonary and ocular hypertension, asthma and other related respiratory diseases, trauma, neurotoxicity, neurological and neurodegenerative disorders, AIDS-related disorders, disorders of gastric acid and other secretary and peristaltic functions of the alimentary system,

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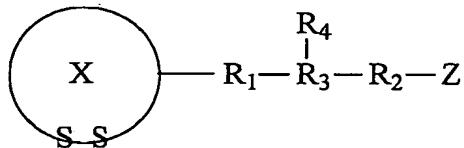
inflammatory bowel diseases (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), drug and disease-induced neuropathy and nephropathy, pathological and premature uterine contractions, chemotactic, phagocytic and other cellular defense impairment in immunological disorders, aggregation disorders, pregnancy-induced hypertension, cerebrovascular diseases, and male impotence.

Claim 9 (Original) A method according to claim 7 wherein the compound is administered orally.

Claim 10 (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (New): A scavenger compound of the general formula I

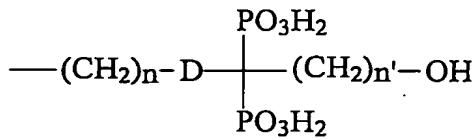


wherein

X is a 4 - 10 membered ring;

R_1 and R_2 are independently of each other an alkylene or alkenylene wherein said R_1 , R_2 or both may be unsubstituted or substituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolidinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrazolidinyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, indolyl, oxyindolyl, isoindolyl, indazolyl, indolinyl, 7-azaindolyl, isoindazolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, naphthridinyl, cinnolinyl, quinazolinyl, pyridopyridyl, benzoxazinyl, quinoxadinyl, and carbolinyl;

R_3 is alkanol, amino, carboxyalcohol, alkanediol, amine alcohol, amine, diol, thio or amine carbonyl;



R_4 is null, H or

n and n' are, independently, an integer from 0 to 8;

D is CH_2 or NH ; and

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Z is a 4 – 10 membered di sulfide ring or R₄
and its salts.